

Ubuntu: I Am Because We Are

Nick Jackson, MA, Instructor of Education, Augustana University The presenter shares the concept of Ubuntu and the impact it has had on his own life, both in and out of the classroom, including establishing a charter school in Denver, Colorado, based on this philosophy.

A vibrant rainbow arches over a golden field under a dramatic, cloudy sky. The rainbow is the central focus, with its colors clearly visible. The field below is a mix of yellow and green, and the sky above is a deep blue with scattered white clouds.

Ubuntu

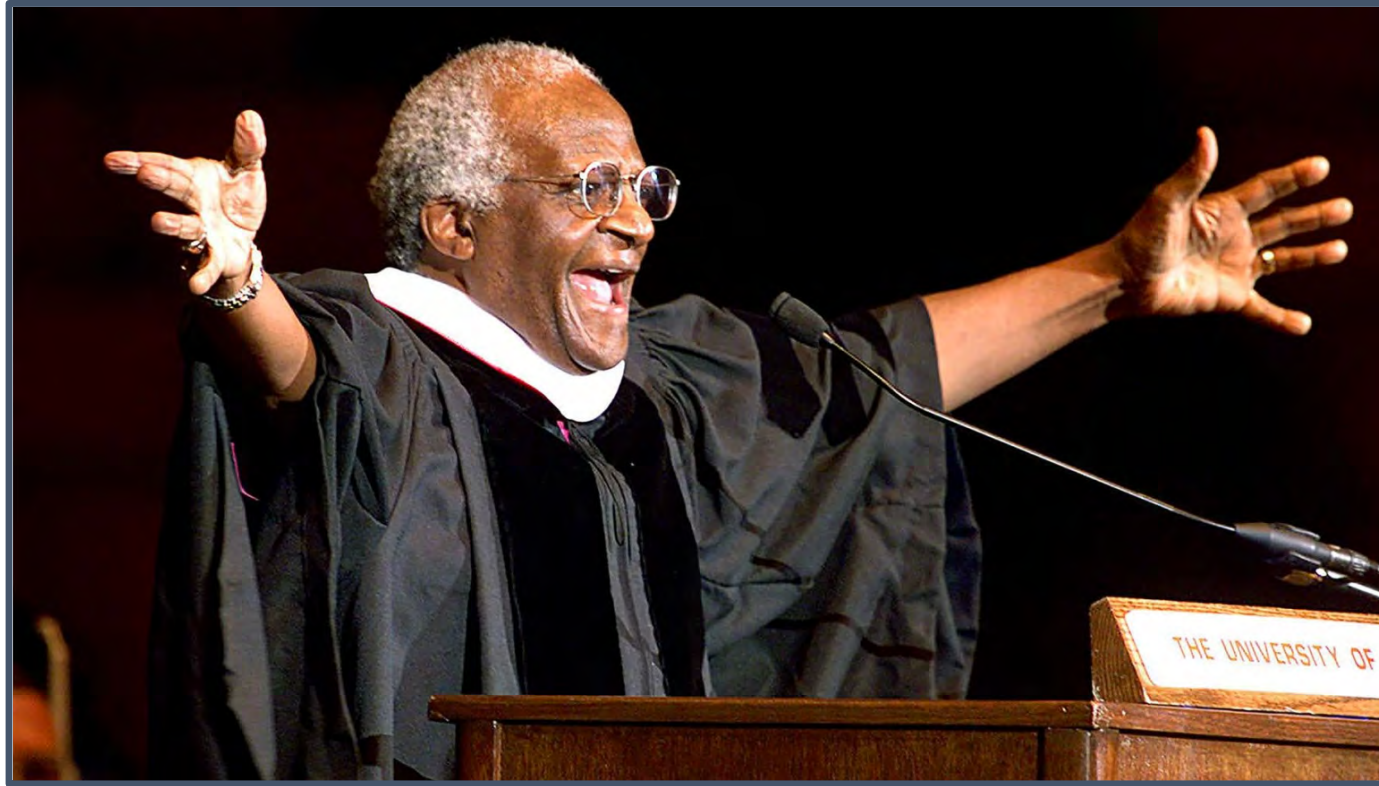
I Am Because We Are

Nick Jackson, MA, Instructor of Education, Augustana University
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THIS AMERICAN LIFE.

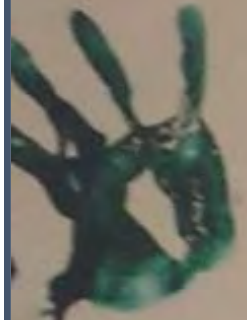
Ira →
glass





“We need other human beings in order to be human. We are made for togetherness, we are made for family, for fellowship, to exist in a tender network of interdependence.” - Desmond Tutu

UBUNTU
BECAUSE
"I AM
WE ARE"

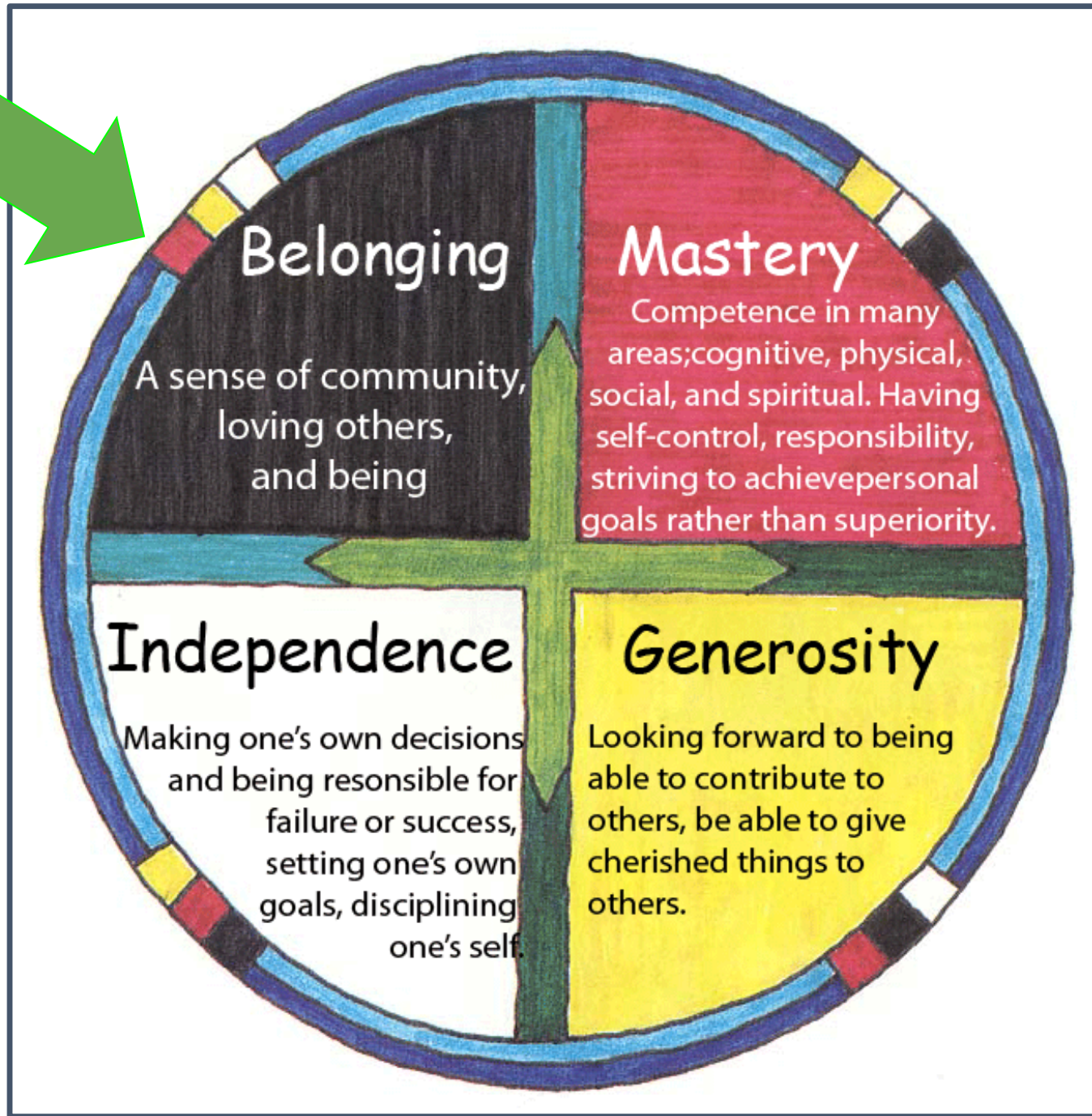
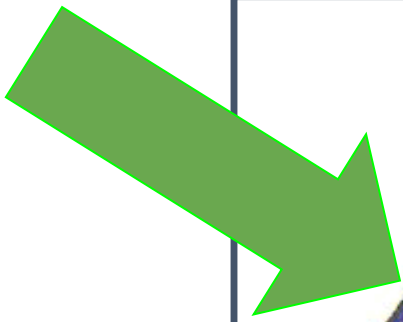


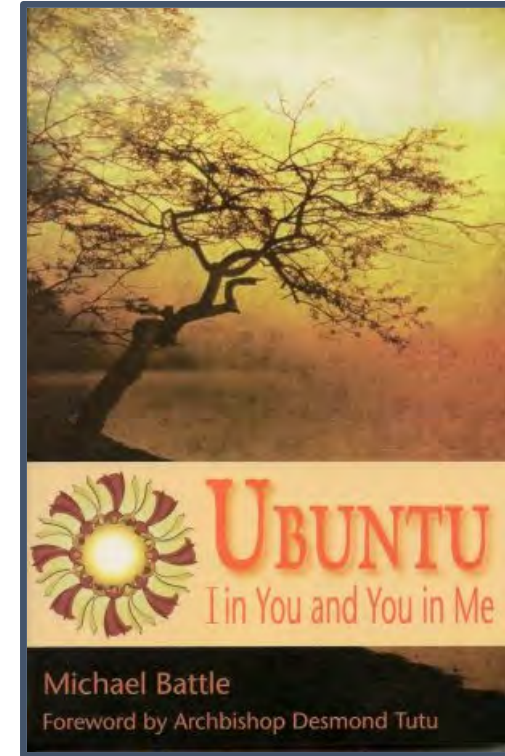
A vibrant rainbow arches over a golden field under a dramatic, cloudy sky. The rainbow is the central focus, with its colors clearly visible. The field below is a mix of green and yellow, suggesting a late summer or autumn setting. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, with some lighter patches where the sun might be breaking through. The overall mood is one of hope and renewal.

Part I: Movement

“He is human precisely in being enveloped in the community of other human beings, in being caught up in the bundle of life. To be is to participate.”

- Desmond Tutu





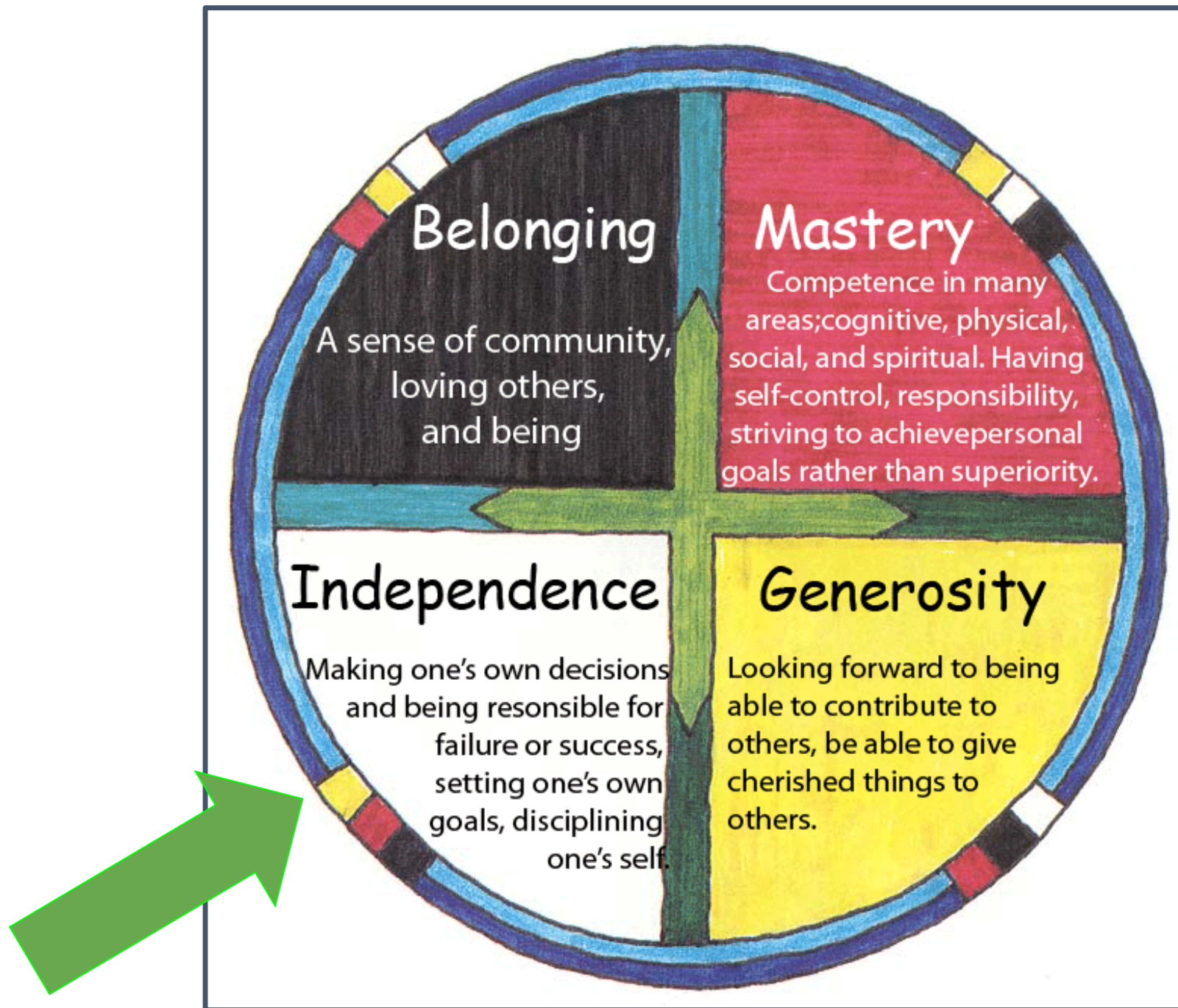
“Ubuntu is the environment of vulnerability, a set of relationships in which persons are able to recognize that their humanity is bound up in the other’s humanity.” - Michael Battle

A vibrant rainbow arches across a dramatic, cloudy sky, casting a reflection on the golden field below. The scene is captured in a wide-angle shot, emphasizing the vastness of the landscape and the intensity of the weather.

Part II: Water

“Ubuntu helps us see how we are all inextricably linked, whether we like it or not.”

- Michael Battle



“A human being is a glorious original created for existing in a delicate network of relationships.”

- Michael Battle

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Part III: My Story

***“Each individual’s humanity is ideally expressed
in relationship with others.”***

- Michael Battle






“An individual does not know they are beautiful, intelligent, or humorous without Ubuntu. We come to understand our own identity only in relationship to others.”

- Michael Battle





"Fan into flame the gift of God,
which is in you . . ."
2 Timothy 1:6

Avera 



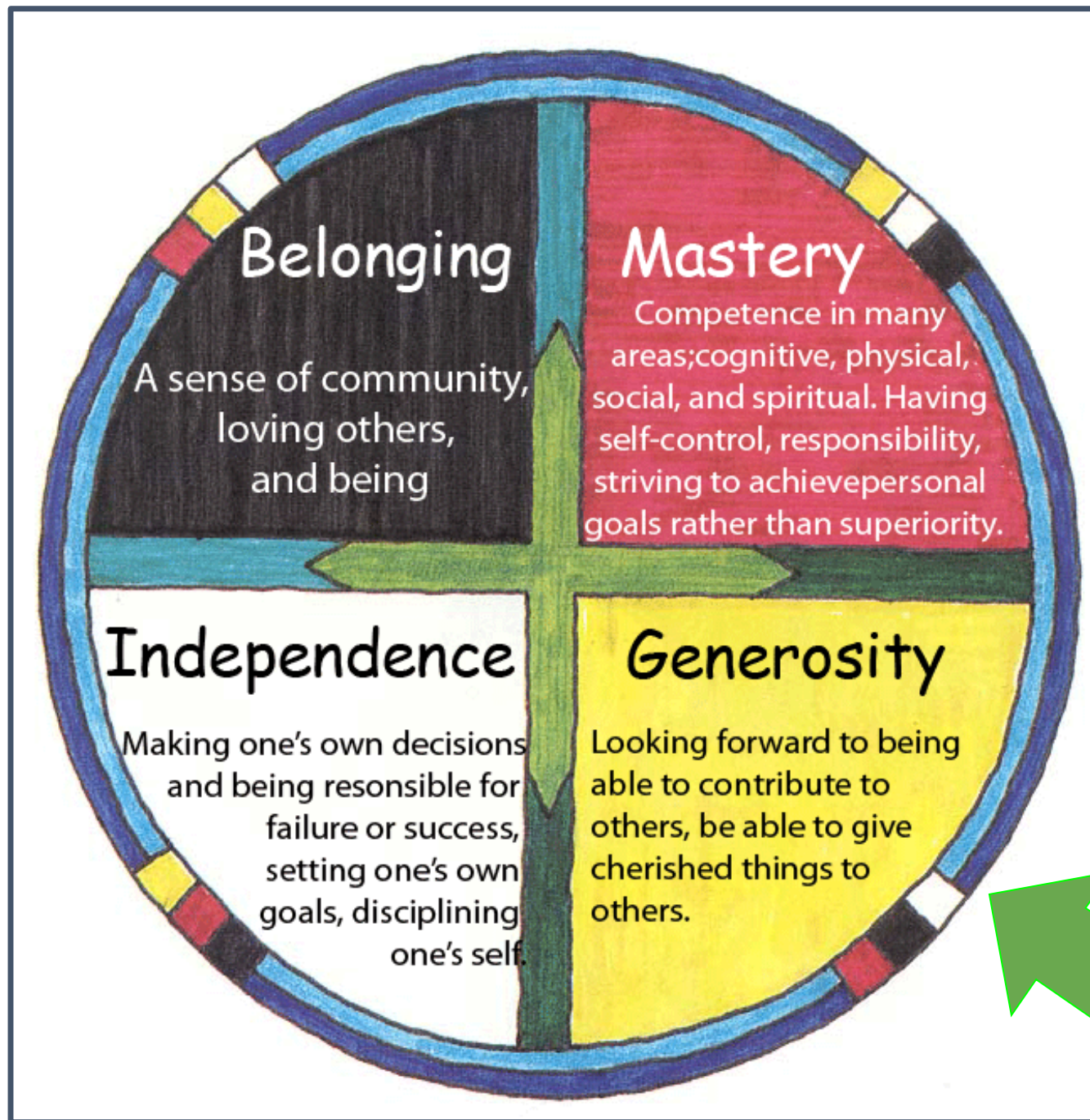






“Knowing that you need someone else causes a different worldview. Practicing a worldview in which I know I cannot be complete without you helps me live a more qualitative life.”

- Michael Battle



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Part IV: Hilary's Story

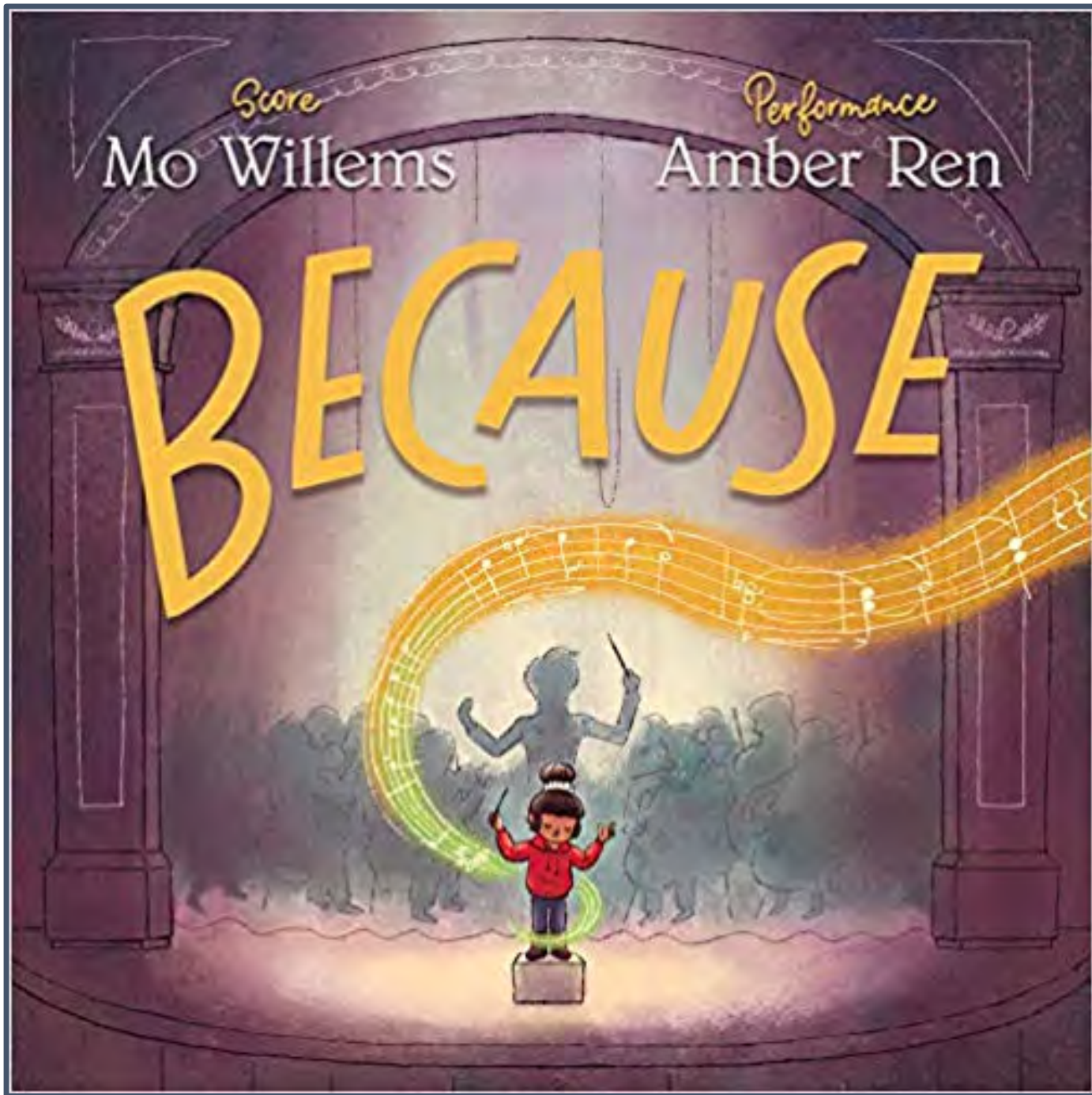
“A person depends on other persons to be a person.”

- Michael Battle

Score
Mo Willems

Performance
Amber Ren

BECAUSE



Because a man named Ludwig wrote
beautiful music—



a man named Franz was inspired
to create his own.



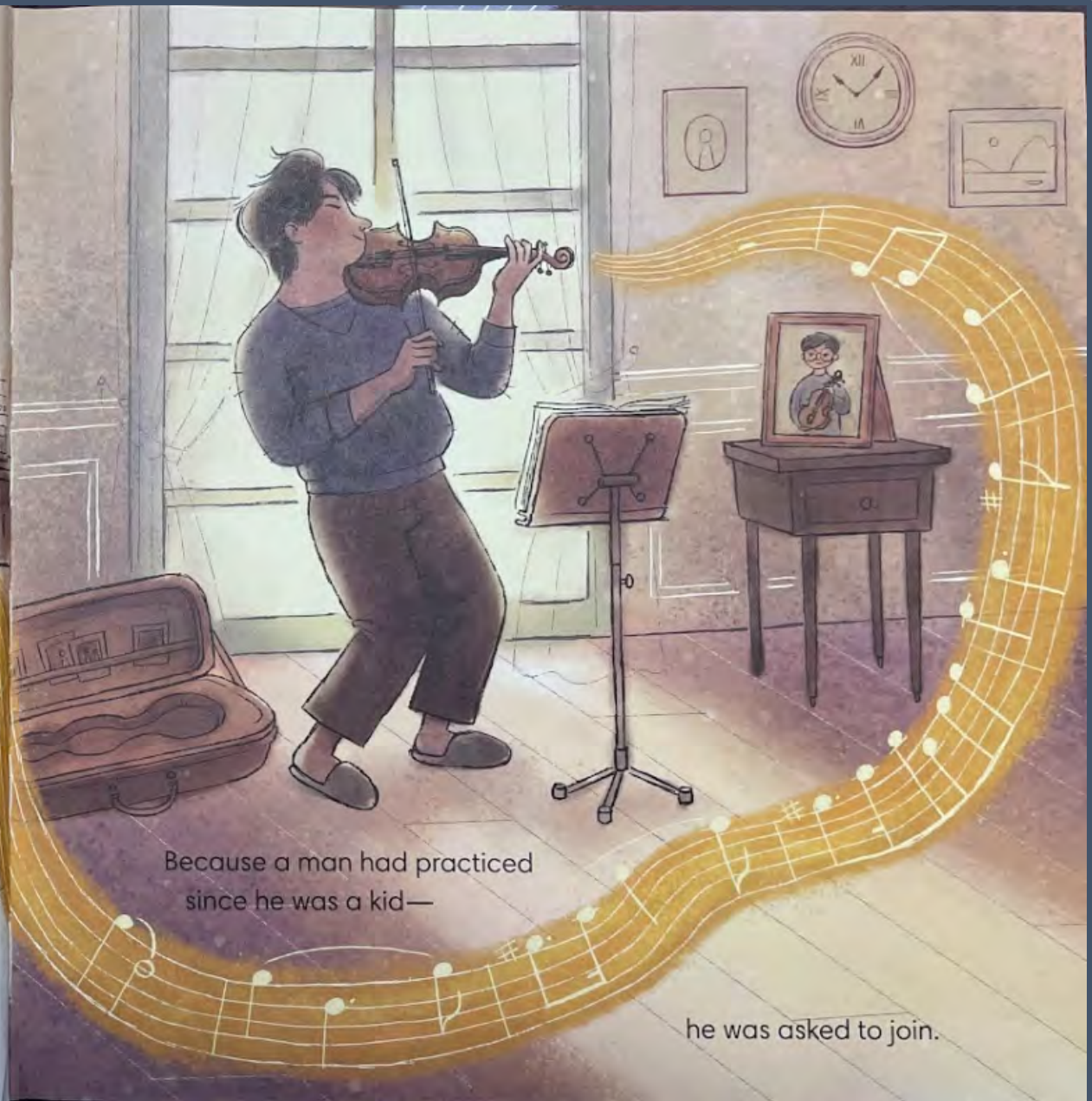
Because many years later, people wanted to hear
Franz's beautiful music—

they formed an orchestra.



Because a man had practiced
since he was a kid—

he was asked to join.



Because a woman studied night and day—
she, too, was asked to play.



Because many others loved
and practiced their instruments—



there were enough musicians.

Because someone created a poster
about Franz's music—

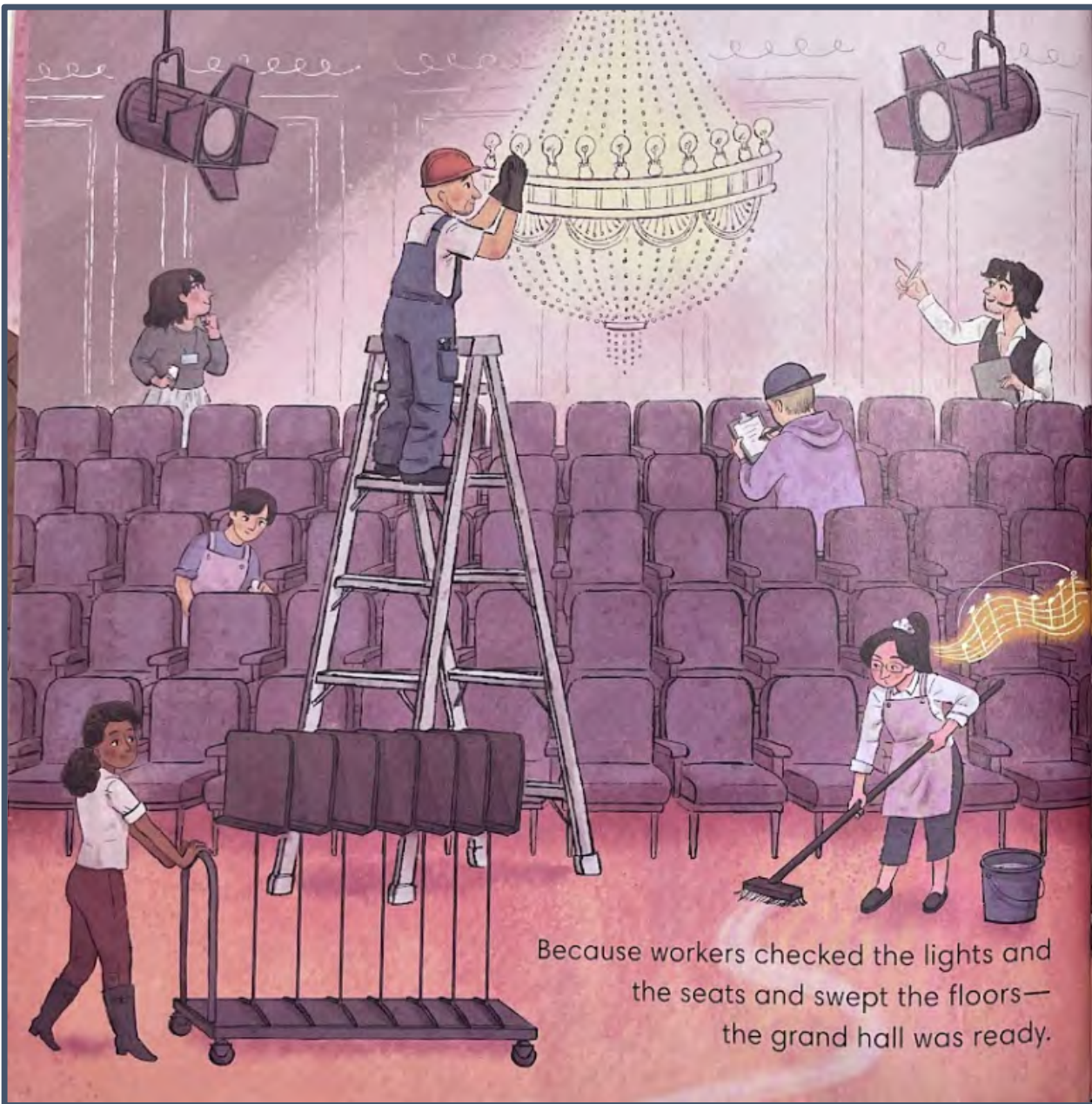
tickets were sold.

Because the train conductor stopped
the train at the grand concert hall—
the orchestra conductor arrived.

Because the orchestra librarian
had copies of the score—



the orchestra rehearsed.



Because workers checked the lights and
the seats and swept the floors—
the grand hall was ready.



Because the time
had come—


the ushers opened the doors.

Because someone's uncle
caught a cold—



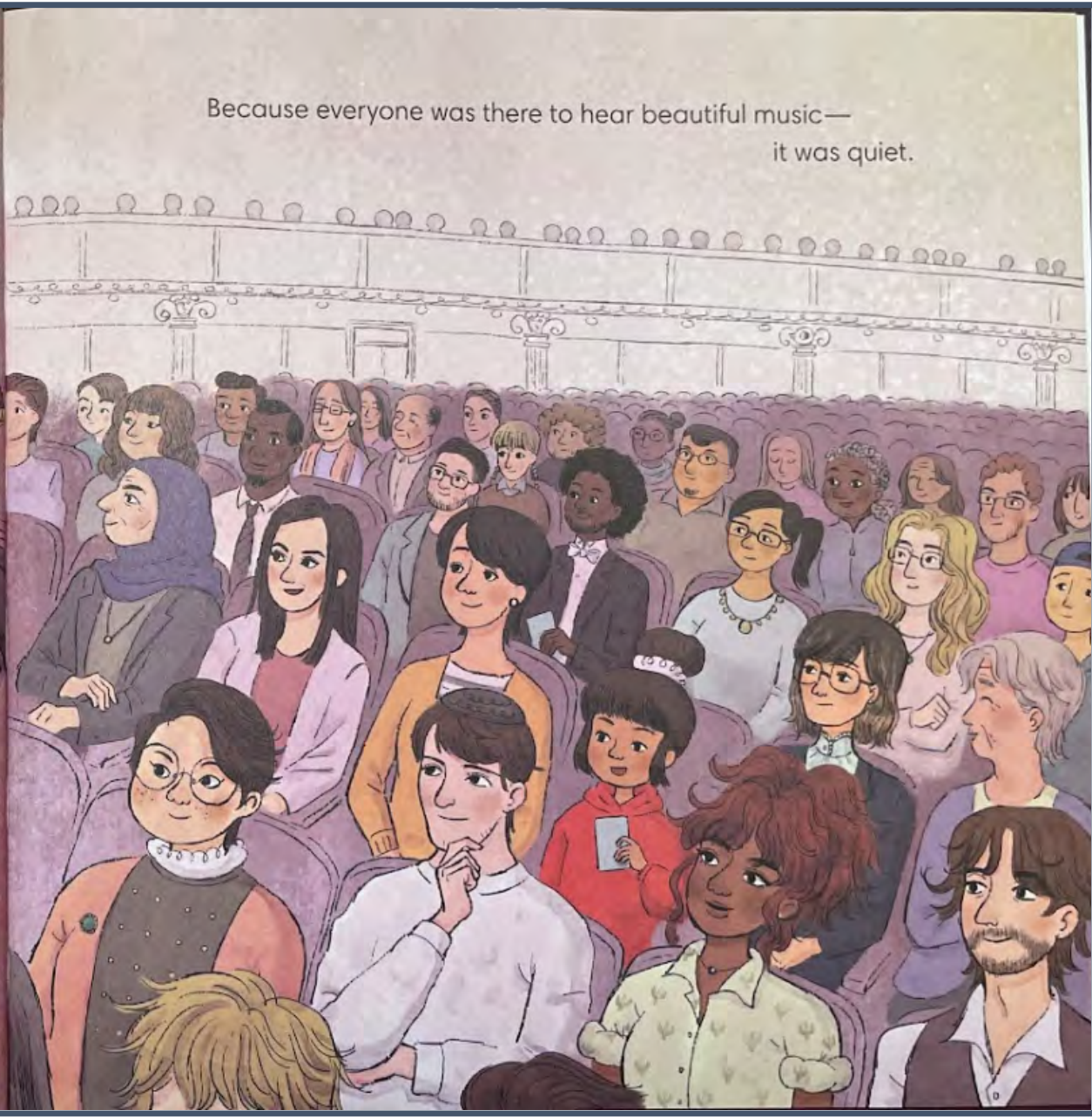
someone's aunt had an extra ticket
for someone special.



An illustration of a hallway with large columns and a stage at the end. A woman in a striped shirt and a young girl in a red jacket are walking towards the stage. A man in a white shirt and tie is also walking. A woman in a black suit is standing near the stage, holding a small object. In the foreground, a man in a tuxedo and a woman in a light pink top are looking towards the stage.

Because the usher helped the aunt
and her special guest—
they found their seats.

Because everyone was there to hear beautiful music—
it was quiet.

An illustration of a large audience seated in a theater. The audience is diverse in age and appearance, including men, women, and children. They are all looking towards the stage. The theater has ornate architecture with columns and a balcony.





In row C, seat 14—



sat the girl with
the uncle's ticket.

She heard the beautiful music written by
the man named Franz—



and it changed her.



The girl was changed.

From that moment on, the girl learned everything
she could about music—



because it fed her.

Soon, she started
to write music, too—



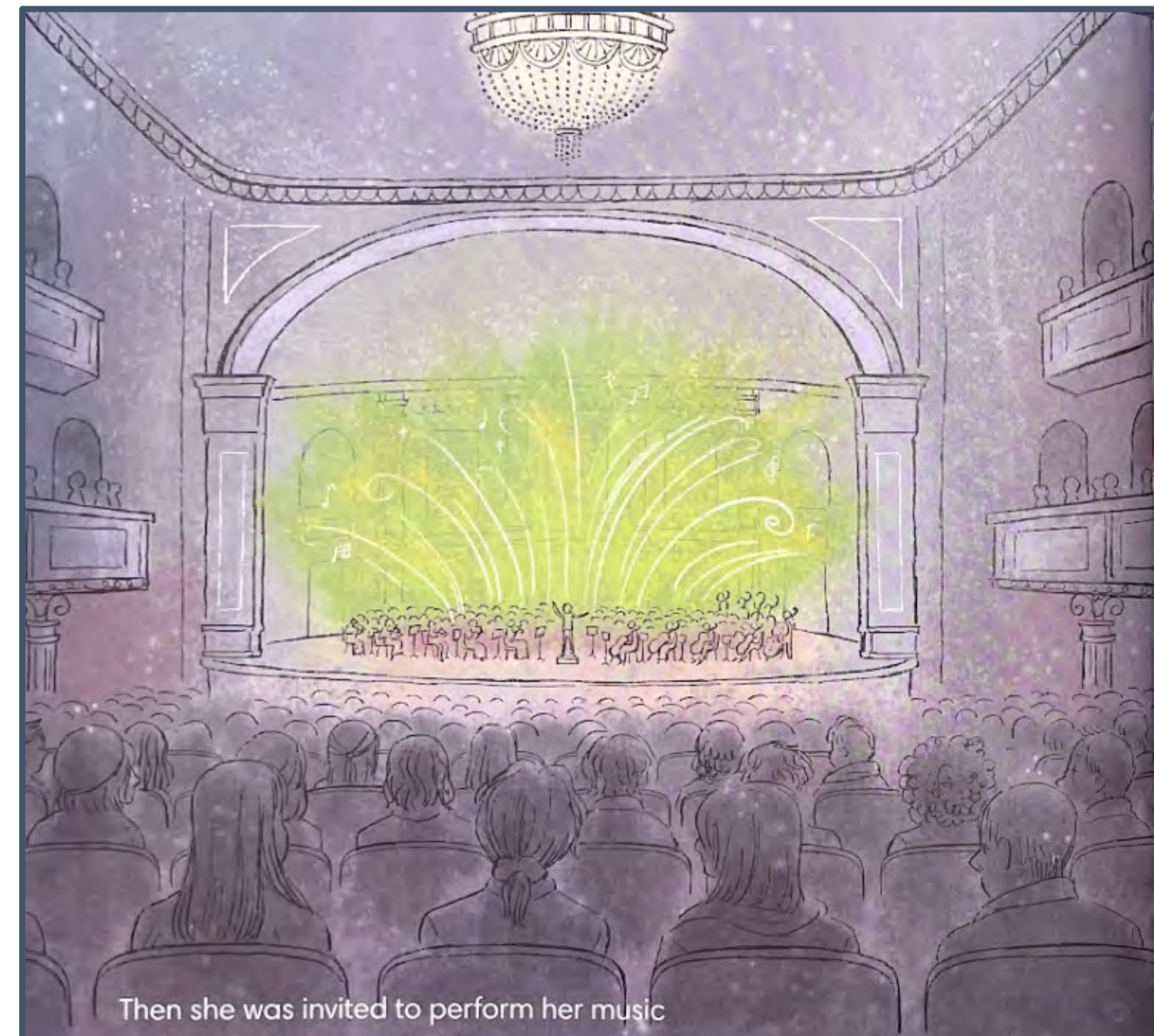
because, like Franz,
the young woman had
something to share.



Over time, the woman became very good—
because she worked very hard.

One night, her music was discovered—
because she was also very lucky.





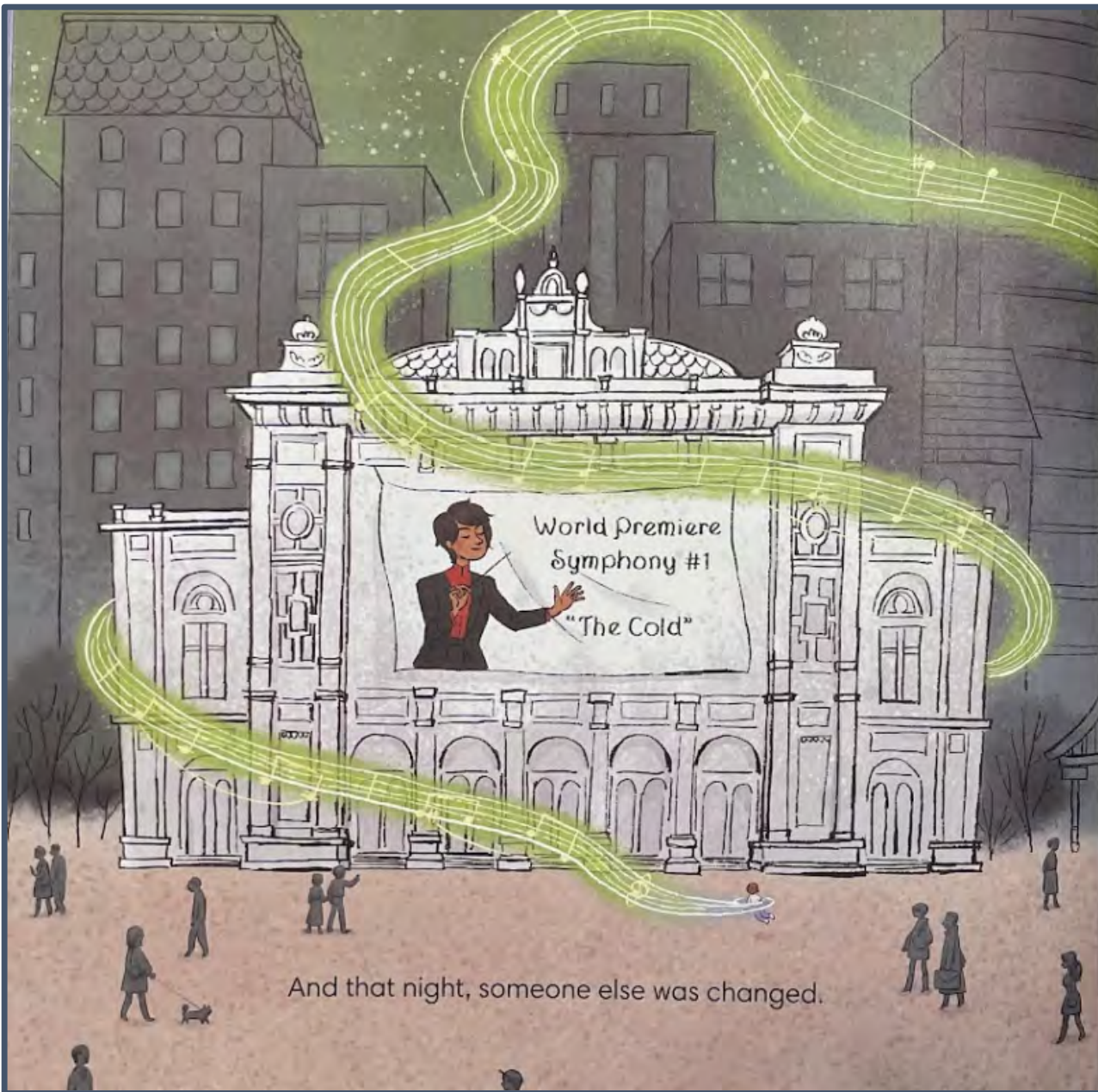
Then she was invited to perform her music
at the grand concert hall—

because so many people wanted to hear it.

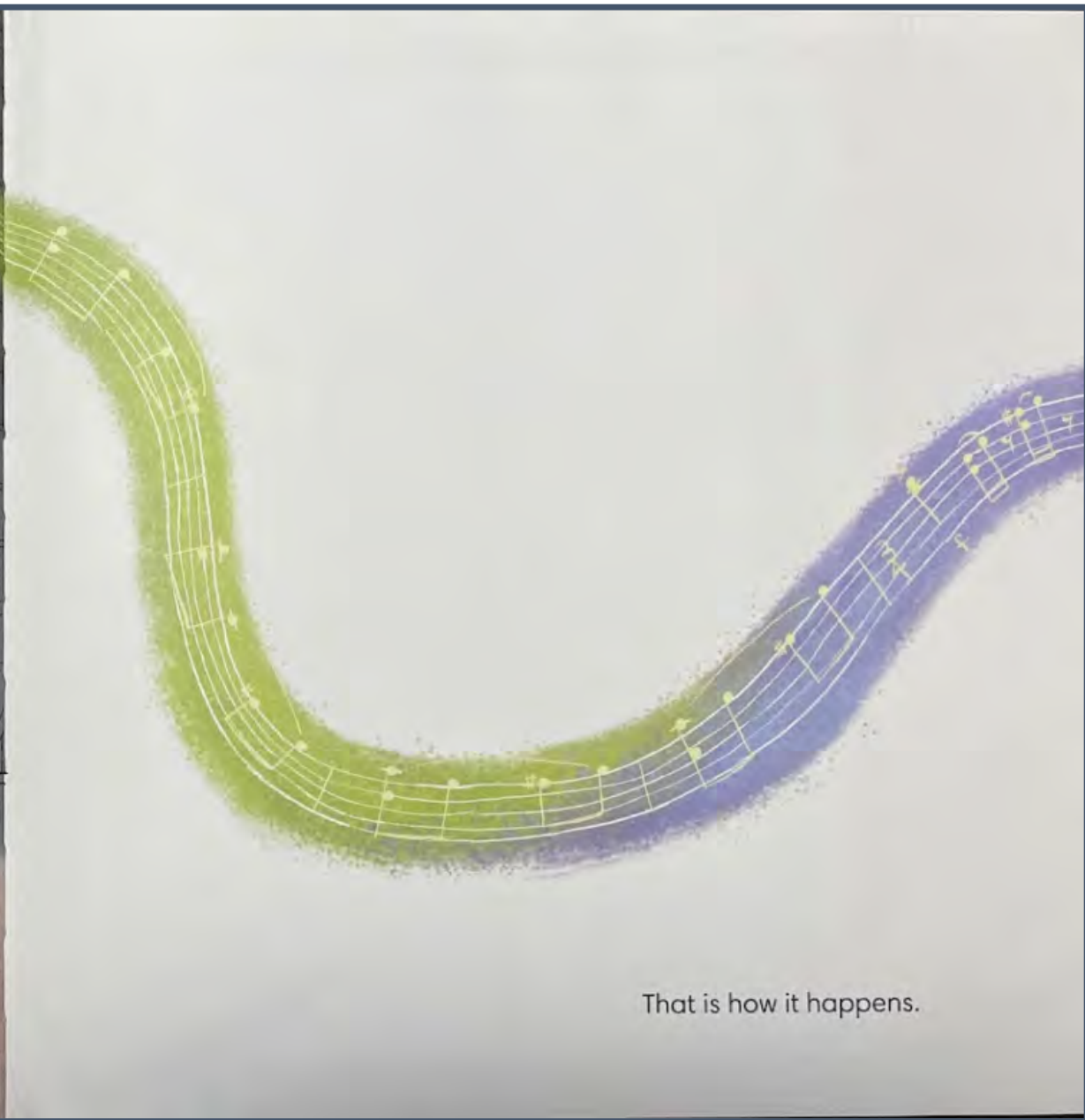


Her composition was
dedicated to the uncle in
row C, seat 14—

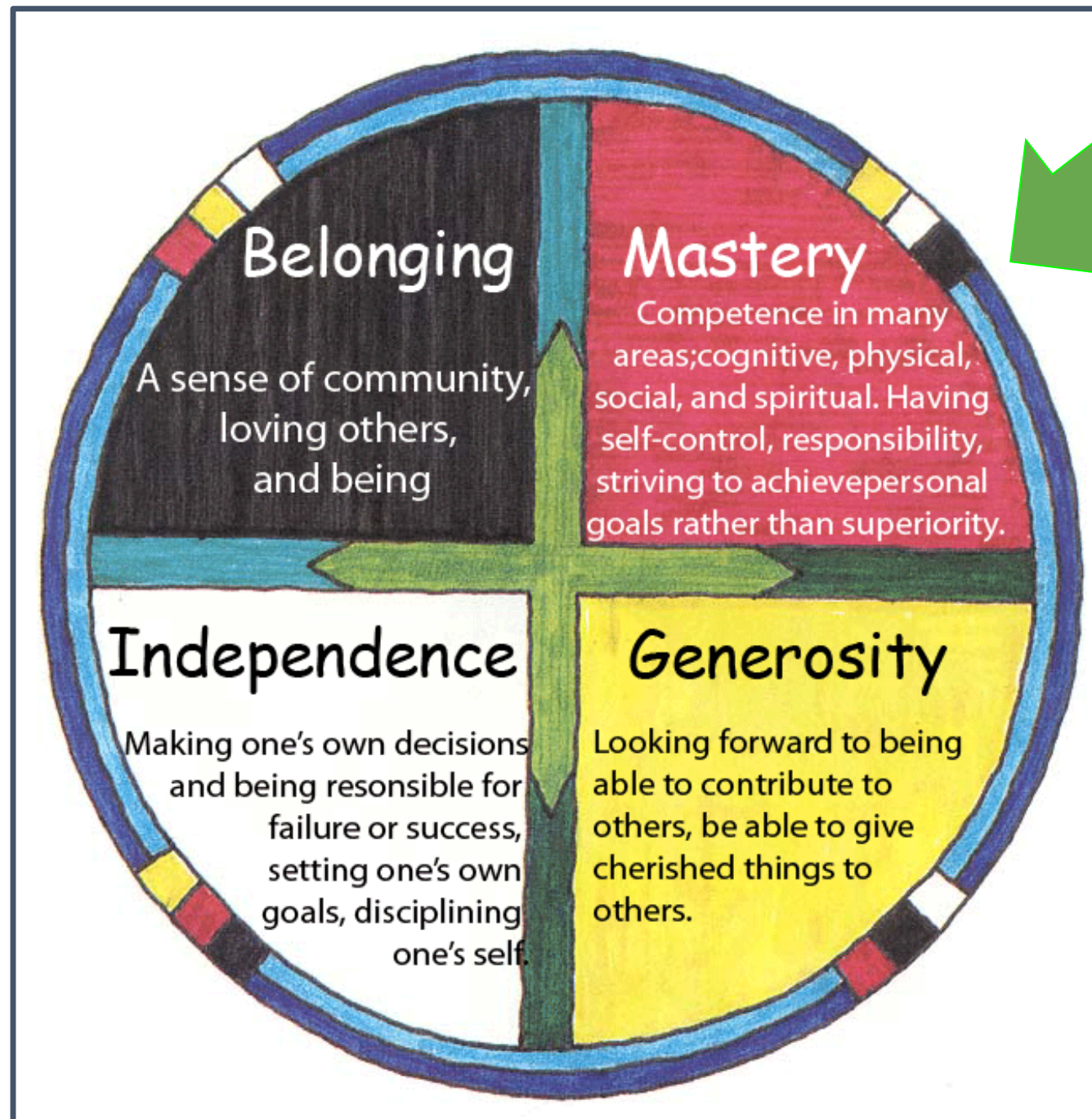
because it was his ticket that brought her here.



And that night, someone else was changed.



That is how it happens.



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UBUNTU

Part I: Movement

Part II: Water

Part III: My Story

Part IV: Hilary's Story

Quote Quest!



Q & A Time

You've got questions. I've got answers.

(Or at least I'll fake it so well that you *think* I've got some answers... Well, maybe.)



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